

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace the drawings originally filed with the attached set of replacement formal drawings.

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending. By this Amendment, the formal drawings are submitted; the specification is amended; and claim 12 is amended. Prompt examination and favorable consideration on the merits are respectfully requested.

In the reply to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants hereby provisionally elect the invention of Group II, claims 12-22. This election is made with traverse.


It is respectfully submitted that the criteria for a proper restriction requirement set forth in MPEP §803 has not been established. In particular, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application can be conducted without a serious burden. For example, elected claim 12 recites a lithographic projection apparatus including a polarizer device constructed and arranged to polarize the beam of radiation in a traverse electric polarization direction, the polarizer device comprising a plurality of elongated elements and a thin layer of absorbing material, wherein the plurality of elongated elements are coated with the thin layer of absorbing material. Elected claim 13 recites a lithographic projection apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the polarizer device further comprises a first layer of material having a first refractive index and a second layer of material having a second refractive index, wherein the plurality of elongated elements are azimuthally and periodically spaced apart and disposed between the first layer and the second. Non-elected claim 1 recites a radial traverse electric polarizer device comprising a substrate material having a first refractive index and a plurality of elongated azimuthally oriented elements coupled to the substrate material, the elongated elements having a second refractive index, wherein the plurality of elements are periodically spaced apart to form a plurality of gaps such that the radial transverse electric polarizer device interacts with the radiation to reflect substantially all of the radiation of the first polarization and transmits substantially all of the radiation of the second polarization. It is respectfully noted that this feature of the polarizer device is also recited in elected claim 14.

As the search and examination of claims 12-22 necessarily includes the search and examination of claims 1-11 and 25-32, as discussed with respect to the examples discussed above with respect to elected claims 12-14 and non-elected claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the entire application can be searched and examined without a serious burden.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment:  
Replacement Sheets - Formal Drawings